

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 1721

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GE, GW, UR

SUBJECT: TEXT OF GDR PROTEST TO SENAT ON STERNFAHRT

REFS:A) USBERLIN 1689

B) BERLIN 6484

C) USBERLIN 1685

1. TO COMPLETE RECORD, WE TRANSMIT BELOW OUR INFORMAL
TRANSLATION OF STATEMENT MADE BY GDR VISITS ARRANGEMENT
PLENIPOTENTIARY MITDANK TO HIS SENAT COUNTERPART , KUNZE,
AUGUST 12 ON THE JUNGE UNION " STERNFAHRT" TO BERLIN AND
WALL ANNIVERSARY MEETING AT REICHSTAG:

BEGIN TEXT: IT IS UNDERSTOOD FROM PRESS REPORTS THAT
A SERIES OF RALLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS ARE TO BE CARRIED
OUT IN WEST BERLIN FROM AUGUST 13 TO AUGUST 15, 1976

DIRECTLY ON THE STATE BORDER OF THE GDR. IT IS APPARENT
THAT OFFICIAL WEST BERLIN PERSONALITIES INTEND TO
PARTICIPATE TOGETHER WITH LEADING CDU POLITICIANS
FROM THE FRG IN THESE EVENTS WHICH ARE AIMED DIRECTLY

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AGAINST THE GDR AND OTHER SOCIALIST STATES AS WELL AS

AGAINST THE GDR'S BORDER SYSTEM BETWEEN IT AND WEST BERLIN. IT IS FURTHER KNOWN THAT MORE THAN 100 MEMBERS OF THE YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF THE CDU FROM THE FRG WISH TO CARRY OUT A SO-CALLED STERNFAHRT TO WEST BERLIN MAKING USE OF THE GDR'S TRANSIT ROADS IN ORDER TO TAKE PART IN THE REFERENCED PROVOCATIVE DEMONSTRATIONS IN WEST BERLIN. THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE GDR PROTESTS AGAINST THE INTENDED IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE ACTIONS AND CALLS ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT THEY CAN ONLY ENCOURAGE ATTACKS ON THE GDR'S BORDERS AND OTHER PROVOCATIVE ACTIVITIES IN THE WEST BERLIN BORDER AREA, SHARPEN TENSION AND EXACERBATE THE SITUATION. SUCH DETENTE-HOSTILE ACTIVITIES STAND IN GLARING CONTRAST TO THE AGREEMENTS AND ARRANGEMENTS WHICH HAVE BROUGHT WEST BERLIN AND ITS POPULATION IDENTIFIABLE ADVANTAGES AND IMPROVEMENTS, FOR EXAMPLE IN TRANSIT AND TRAVEL VISITOR TRAFFIC THROUGH AND INTO THE GDR. TOLERATION OR INDEED SUPPORT BY RESPONSIBLE WEST BERLIN OFFICIALS OF SUCH MEASURES AIMED AGAINST THE GDR WOULD VIOLATE THOSE TREATY OBLIGATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKEN BY THEM AND WHICH ARE DIRECTED AT THE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS AND THE AVOIDANCE OF COMPLICATIONS. PROCEEDING FROM THIS THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OF THE GDR EMPHASIZES ITS EXPECTATION THAT THE COMPETENT WEST BERLIN OFFICIALS WILL UNDERTAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR TREATY OBLIGATIONS IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE INTENDED ANTI-DETENTE ACTIONS IN WEST BERLIN, THE SUBSEQUENT CONSEQUENCE FOR WHICH ON THE OTHER HAND THEY WOULD HAVE TO BEAR FULL RESPONSIBILITY. THE GDR WILL FOLLOW DEVELOPMENTS WITH THE NECESSARY CARE AND RESERVES FOR ITSELF THE RIGHT TO TAKE NECESSARY MEASURES FOR PROTECTING AND MAINTAINING ITS INTERESTS. END TEXT.

2. COMMENT: THIS STATEMENT IS LONGER AND MORE DETAILED THAN GDR STATEMENT TO FRG REP(REF A) IN ACCORDANCE WITH GDR POSITION THAT FRG HAS RESPONSIBILITY ONLY FOR TRANSIT QUESTIONS AND THAT EVENTS IN WEST BERLIN AND ON WEST BERLIN-GDR "STATE BORDER" ARE SUBJECT OF INDEPENDENT GDR-FRG DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS. IT AVOIDS REFERENCES TO QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT WHICH WERE CONFIDENTIAL

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BASIS FOR SOVIET STATEMENT TO ALLIES SAME DAY(REF C) AND CONCENTRATES, AGAIN AS IS GDR CUSTOM, ON ALLEGED BILATERAL GDR-FRG UNDERTAKINGS. TAKEN TOGETHER, THREE STATEMENTS SHOW NOT UNEXPECTED CLOSE COORDINATION AND CAREFUL DRAFTING TO REFLECT SOVIET-GDR VIEW ON RESPONSIBILITIES OF VARIOUS PARTICIPANTS IN BERLIN SITUATION.

3. CURIOUSLY, MITDANK WAS ALL SMILES AND GOOD HUMOR
IN DELIVERING THE PROTEST TO KUNZE WHO THOUGHT
IT MILD. ACCORDINGLY, KUNZE WAS ALL THE MORE SURPRISED
WHEN MEASURES WERE TAKEN, E.G., 12 BUSSES TURNED BACK.
GEORGE

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